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August 27, 2001

The Registrar
Births Deaths & Marriages
PO Box 4332
Melbourne
Vic. 3001

Dear Sir,

Re: Family History Research

I have two requests for the services of your department please. I recognise that neither will be straightforward, and in fact may be impossible.

The first is for a copy of the registration of deaths of Kenneth McDowell, and of his wife Hazel nee Purvis. I am only able to guess that they were married in the mid 1920s, but almost certainly in Melbourne, and that their death's might have been in the 1980s, also in Melbourne (or suburbs).

It will be via this information that I might be able to trace their issue, my second cousins Molly and Neil McDowell, who I am hoping may still be alive somewhere.

My second request is even more vague. Do you have search capability which allows identification of a woman's married name, if her maiden name only is known? Following on from my first request, I don't know Molly's full name, or if she ever married. But if she did marry, and if you do have a search capability, this may also help me to locate her.

As I am sure you are fully aware, following the male line is straightforward as the married woman forsakes her maiden name in favour of her husband's name, but if the husband's name is not known, the search is made very difficult, if not impossible.

My Visa card number for payment of your services is

4564 3850 0109 9833 exp 10/02. George W. Stevens

Sincerely,

George Stevens